APR 1 4 2004

PTO/S8/08A (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0051-0031

S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE provid to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons Complete If Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO Application Number 10/725,863 Filing Date 12/2/03 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor John H. Whiton STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 1745 **Examiner Name** C-2951 Attorney Docket Number

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
xaminer nitials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (d kernet)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Pessages or Relevant Figures Appear
		<sup>US-</sup> 5,622,606	04/22/1997	Kügler et al.	
		US:			
		US-	-		
		US-			
	<u> </u>	us-			
		US-	-		
		US-			
		us-			
_		US-			
		Us-			
		us-			
		us.			
		üs-			
	1	US-			
		US-			
	<u> </u>	US-			
		US-			
		us-			
	<b>†</b>	us-			
	<b>_</b>			NT DOCUMENTS	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

_ <del></del>		FORE	GN PATENT DOCU	MENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	n Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columna, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	-A
		ountry Code <sup>3</sup> Number * Kind Code <sup>3</sup> (# kindwn)	MM-DD-YYYY			<u> </u>
						H
						Н
	<u></u>			<u> </u>	_l <del></del>	ш

Examiner Date
Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not distion is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through distinct in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique distinct designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of Costs of USI-10 Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.lapto.gov">www.lapto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Senter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For USI-10 Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.lapto.gov">www.lapto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Senter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For USI-10 Patent Documents, the indication of the year of the programment and present document. Skind of document by laptoness as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard S1.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language.

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the line collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to lake 2 hours to complete, USP10 to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to lake 2 hours to complete, useful or process. Any comments including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USP10. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on this amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trudemark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandra, VA 22313.1450. DO NOT SEND FFFS OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND

TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, vall 1-800-PTQ-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select uption 2.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being (acsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 703-872-9306) on April 14, 2-604.

PAGE 1/1 \* RCVD AT 4/14/2004 4:49:10 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 \* DNIS:8729306 \* CSID:8606491385 \* DURATION (mm-ss):00-46